

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- Sub A1*
1. A stent, comprising:
- a generally tubular body having a longitudinal axis and a circumference, and having a size adapted for introduction into a body lumen;
- a plurality of cylindrical bands formed in the tubular body, each band comprising a generally zig-zag pattern comprising a series of sequential diagonal elements connected to one another and extending about the circumference, the diagonal elements having a generally arcuate shape, all diagonal elements in each band being oriented in either a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction about the circumference; and
- a plurality of longitudinal connectors extending between and connecting adjacent bands.
2. The stent of claim 1, wherein the tubular body comprises a coiled-sheet.
3. The stent of claim 1, wherein the tubular body is expandable between a contracted condition for facilitating introduction into a body lumen and an enlarged condition for engaging a wall of a body lumen.

4. The stent of claim 3, wherein the tubular body is biased towards the enlarged condition.

5 5. The stent of claim 3, wherein the zig-zag pattern is expandable between an unstretched condition and a stretched condition, the zig-zag pattern being biased towards the stretched condition above a transition temperature which is substantially below body temperature, thereby at least partially defining the enlarged condition.

6. The stent of claim 5, wherein ends of adjacent diagonal elements are arranged further away from one another about the circumference in the stretched condition than in the unstretched condition.

7. The stent of claim 6, wherein the diagonal elements have a less arcuate shape in the stretched condition than in the unstretched condition such that the diagonal elements at least partially straighten for minimizing foreshortening of the tubular body along the longitudinal axis.

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8. The stent of claim 1, wherein all of the diagonal elements in all of the bands comprising the tubular body are oriented in a clockwise direction about the circumference.

5 9. The stent of claim 1, wherein the longitudinal connectors have a longitudinal dimension which is substantially smaller than a longitudinal dimension of the diagonal elements.

10 10. The stent of claim 1, wherein each diagonal element comprises first and second generally straight portions having first and second ends, the second ends being connected together by a curved portion, the first ends being connected to preceding and succeeding diagonal elements.

15 11. The stent of claim 1, wherein the diagonal elements of each cylindrical band are out of phase with any adjacent cylindrical band.

20 *Sub 22*  
12. A stent, comprising:  
a generally tubular body having a longitudinal axis and a circumference, and having a size adapted for introduction into a body lumen;

a plurality of generally bat shaped cells formed in the tubular body, each cell defining a head region, a tail region and opposing curved wing regions, the head region of each cell being connected to the tail region of an adjacent cell; and

5 a plurality of connectors extending between and connecting adjacent cells.

13. The stent of claim 12, wherein the head and tail regions are aligned about the circumference, and the wing regions have a generally "V" shape extending longitudinally away from the head and tail regions.

14. The stent of claim 13, wherein the cells are arranged sequentially about the circumference, thereby defining a  
15 cylindrical band.

15. The stent of claim 14, wherein the tubular body comprises a plurality of cylindrical bands, each cylindrical band comprising a sequence of bat shaped cells, adjacent cylindrical  
20 bands being connected to one another.

16. The stent of claim 15, wherein the plurality of connectors comprise a plurality of longitudinal connectors extending between adjacent cylindrical bands.

17. The stent of claim 12, wherein the wing regions are defined by first and second arcuate members, the first and second arcuate members comprising a pair of generally straight portions connected to one another by a curved portion.

18. The stent of claim 17, wherein the curved portion defines an apex of the "V" shaped curved wing regions, the apices all pointing substantially in a single direction.

19. The stent of claim 17, wherein each head region is defined by a connector extending between the first arcuate members of the opposing wing regions of the respective cell, and the tail region is defined by a connector extending between the second arcuate members of the opposing wing regions of the respective cell.

20. The stent of claim 19, wherein one of the generally straight portions of each of the first and second arcuate members

is substantially shorter than the other generally straight portion of the respective arcuate member.

Sub A5  
21. The stent of claim 19, wherein the connector defining the tail region also defines the head region of an adjacent cell.

22. The stent of claim 12, wherein the plurality of connectors comprise a longitudinal connector extending between a wing region of a first cell and a wing region of an adjacent cell.

23. The stent of claim 11, wherein the tubular body comprises a coiled-sheet.

15 24. The stent of claim 11, wherein the tubular body is expandable between a contracted condition for facilitating introduction into a body lumen and an enlarged condition for engaging a wall of a body lumen.

20 25. The stent of claim 24, wherein the tubular body is biased towards the enlarged condition.